Continuation of Appl. No. 09/884,269 Amdt. dated September 23, 2003 Preliminary Amendment

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth E. Jenkins, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 51,846

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 415-576-0200 Fax: 415-576-0300

Attachments KEJ:kad 60044846 v1